PRESS RELEASE
Bikeway Implementation
September 19, 2002

The Houston Bikeway Program Expedites Completion

The City of Houston moves forward with the implementation of its final bikeway projects. Under a move to accelerate the completion of the remaining 21 projects under the 1993 Comprehensive Bikeway Plan, the City of Houston Bikeway Program, in joint effort with the Texas Department of Transportation, Harris County Flood Control District, Harris County, and the Houston-Galveston Area Council, has accelerated the design and construction process of all remaining projects.

The Texas Medical Center (TMC) Phase II, the Central Business District (CBD) Phase II, and the Harrisburg-Sunset Phase II projects begin construction this month. These projects include off-street multi-use paths along green space, and on-street connectors to the existing bikeway network that currently includes 214 completed miles of on-street and off-street bikeways.

The remaining 63 planned miles will be completed by December 2003. Over 80 more miles are also underway and together, will provide a total bikeway network of over 350 bikeway miles across a 500 square mile area. The network will increase transportation opportunities for cyclists and pedestrians, and provide a transportation network of onstreet bikeways and off-street multi-use trails for those looking for a nice place to ride, bike, sit down and read a book or enjoy the bayou under the shade of a tree.

"This is the beginning of the end of design and construction under the original plan," said Lilibeth André, Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator for the City of Houston. "The consulting teams are completing final design and we expect to have our projects under construction by the early part of 2003."

The remaining projects are expected to reach final design by December 2002. Final design is delivered to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for review and approval. The construction phase of these projects is managed by TxDOT and once completed, the City of Houston accepts the projects and is responsible for maintenance of the bikeways. The maintenance for bikeways along the street is handled by the Public Works and Engineering Department,

and the Parks and Recreation Department handles the off-street multiuse trails. You can call 3-1-1 to address maintenance needs.

For more information about the Houston Bikeway Program, visit the Program's website at www.houstonbikeways.org, or call (713) 837-0003.